

PATENT

**REMARKS:**

In response to the Pre-Appeal Brief request for review filed December 14, 2006, the panel has determined that claims 20-21 are allowable, and claims 1-19 should remain rejected. Rather than take this case to Appeal, this Amendment is being submitted to put this case into condition for allowance.

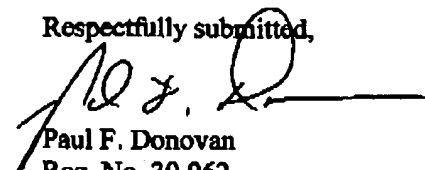
Allowance of claims 20-21 is noted with thanks.

Claims 1-19 have been cancelled without prejudice.

New claims 22-40 have been added. New claims 22-40 depend from allowed claim 20, thereby making them allowable for at least the same reasons applied thereto.

No new matter has been added by way of the amendments and remarks made herein. Reconsideration and allowance of all the pending claims are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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